

Chapter 1217 A Different Keely

Two days afterward, Marco got word from Jorge that he was back in Zodiac with Keely.

Both Marco and Loraine experienced mixed feelings about this update. They had believed that they might never see Keely again, but destiny had other plans and reunited them.

Marco turned to Loraine, seeking guidance on their next move.

Should Loraine choose to avoid Keely, Marco was prepared to lessen his interactions with Jorge going forward. Given Zodiac's vastness, avoiding someone if desired was quite feasible.

After pondering briefly, Loraine said calmly, "Let's meet Keely. Why not? We haven't done anything wrong. A direct meeting with Jorge could well resolve everything beautifully."

Marco agreed, and they made their way to Jorge's place.

When they arrived at Jorge's residence, they found him gently feeding Keely with a tender and patient smile.

Keely appeared much thinner and was dressed casually. She seemed entertained by Jorge's playful behavior as she laughed merrily with sparkling eyes that followed his every move like a compliant child. She opened her mouth for food as though she were indeed a toddler.

Marco coughed lightly to make their presence known. Keely's joyful gaze turned their way and she immediately looked tensed.



She shyly hid behind Jorge and peeked out at them as though they were unfamiliar faces.

Seeing this, Loraine and Marco looked at each other, both catching the element of surprise in their expressions.

Jorge gently stroked Keely's head, then turned to them and explained, "Since her treatment, Keely's emotional state has become much more stable. However, the severe trauma she experienced earlier has caused her to forget many things. The doctors mentioned her mental state has reverted to that of a young child."

At Jorge's words, Marco's gaze flickered briefly.

He remembered that before Keely had turned ten, when her parents were still alive, she had been just like this—naive and innocent.

Could it be that the memories after her parents' death were so painful that she had blocked them out?

Loraine observed Keely for a moment. Keely, catching her gaze, blushed and smiled timidly. Then she inched further behind Jorge for comfort.

It seemed that Keely's demeanor wasn't just an act.

Loraine crouched down to appear less intimidating and gently inquired, "Do you still remember me?"

Keely blinked her eyes before shaking her head. Clinging to Jorge, she shyly requested, "After we eat, play with me!"

Jorge responded with a warm laugh, "Alright. But remember, we have guests now. Can you wait a bit?"

Keely sulked briefly but agreed, "Okay."



Watching Keely in this state, Loraine struggled to reconcile the image before her with that of the hysterical, aggressive woman she remembered.

She pondered, had Keely truly lost her sanity and all her memories?

If so, maybe this was for the best for everyone involved.

Marco stayed quiet for a moment, pressing his lips together. He avoided looking at Keely again and handed Jorge the prepared documents. He muttered, "These are the follow-up records. Please check if there are any issues."

As Jorge reviewed the documents, he was struck by a profound regret. An irreparable rift had developed between him and Marco. He sighed, choosing not to dwell on it.

Standing beside him, Marco elaborated, "The Powell family has faced consequences and received their just punishment..."

Keely, uninterested in their talk, listened briefly before wandering off to pick up a doll from the sofa to play with.

Loraine couldn't resist looking at her again.

Keely appeared to take a liking to her. She blinked, turned around with the doll, and offered generously, "Do you want to play with me?"

Loraine averted her gaze. She had mixed feelings.

She had never imagined she'd one day sit peacefully alongside Keely.

Looking at the innocent Keely before her, she found it hard to refuse her request.

Keely had suffered consequences for her previous actions, and



the Powell family had faced incarceration. It was time for her to let go of their past.

Now, Keely was different from who she used to be; she remembered nothing. If she remained this way, it would be okay.

Ultimately, Loraine chose not to join her to play but offered Keely a warm smile.

Soon, she and Marco prepared to take their leave. Keely looked uneasy, like a child not wanting to say goodbye to a new friend.

This reaction solidified Loraine's and Marco's belief that Keely truly had no recollection of their past. Loraine reassured her kindly, "We'll visit you another day. Then we can play."

Keely nodded with hesitation. When they turned to leave, no one saw the chilling, sinister look that briefly crossed her face.



Chapter 1218 Slater's Request

Keely's return to Zodiac weighed heavily on everyone, yet her memory loss rendered her as innocent as a child.

The feared chaos did not manifest, and life proceeded as usual.

Over afternoon tea the next day, Loraine couldn't help but sigh, confiding in Jennie.

Jennie, despite not witnessing Keely's current state, furrowed her brow as she expressed her doubts. "I suspect that Keely is faking her memory loss. She was always good at playing innocent."

Stirring her coffee thoughtfully, Loraine hesitated. "I think it's genuine."

Given Keely's strong hostility towards her, if she was indeed feigning friendliness, Loraine had to acknowledge Keely's remarkable acting skills.

Jennie snorted. "Whatever she turns into, it's not our concern. But remember not to lower your guard against her. Well, as long as she stays away from you, who cares if she is faking her memory loss!"

Loraine couldn't help but smile at Jennie's protective stance, touched by her unwavering support.

Having a friend like Jennie was a blessing—always steadfast by her side, offering encouragement.

After Loraine casually recounted recent events to her, Jennie commented, "The Powells are nothing but despicable. No wonder Keely went off the rails. With relatives like hers, even without going crazy, her future wasn't looking bright."

Loraine pondered in silence, taking a sip of coffee. She believed that putting the Powells behind bars was ultimately beneficial for Keely.

Suddenly, Jennie interjected, her tone serious. "Lorrie, now that Jorge is back, he will surely take care of Keely. But considering all the terrible things she has done to you in the past, are you just going to let her off the hook because of a claim of memory loss?"

Jennie had always found it perplexing how Loraine not only refrained from seeking revenge on Keely but also spent a considerable amount to ensure Keely received the best care at a rehab center.

Actually, Jennie couldn't help but feel a hint of satisfaction knowing Keely had been sent to a subpar rehab center by the Powell family.

Loraine paused thoughtfully, responding calmly, "I've made peace with the past. I don't want to dwell on it anymore. Right now, I just want to wrap things up in Zodiac, return to Vagow with Marco for our wedding, and then settle into a peaceful life with Grandpa and my family."

Jennie chuckled teasingly. "Your career plans sound like retirement plans, but fair enough. After all, Marco isn't getting any younger. By the way, have you two decided on a name for your future child?"

Loraine glanced at Jennie playfully and replied, "When are you going to see yourself getting engaged to Jimmie?"

Jennie raised an eyebrow, smiling mischievously. "Alright,

alright. I'll try not to lag behind."

Feeling a surge of emotion, Jennie continued, "Lorrie, it's like fate. Who would've thought we'd become such close friends and both develop feelings for men who are also close friends? Maybe we should even have a joint wedding!"

Loraine pondered the idea seriously and nodded thoughtfully. "It sounds feasible."

Aldo would certainly be thrilled.

Jennie, having brought up the topic herself, suddenly felt a chill and shivered, adding firmly, "But only if it's just the four of us! If we end up sharing a wedding with Slater and Trudy in the future, count me out!"

Loraine understood why Jennie was saying that.

Initially harboring dislike for Slater, Jennie had somewhat softened her stance after getting to know him.

However, his girlfriend Trudy, who possessed the same scheming nature as Keely, annoyed Jennie and contributed to her growing disdain for Slater.

Just as Loraine was about to playfully tease Jennie, her friend's expression suddenly shifted. Jennie widened her eyes and exclaimed in disbelief, "Lorrie, I don't think I'm seeing clearly! Is that Slater?"

To their surprise, Slater was indeed approaching them.

His weary appearance and troubled expression hinted at a deep inner turmoil.

He looked directly at Loraine, his voice heavy with emotion. "Loraine, I need to ask you for a favor."